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LONGEVITY OF BACTERIA IN THE PRESENCE OF LACTIC ACID.

Darbois (C. R. Soc. Biol. 1910) finds that *Micrococcus Melitensis*, which is not a particularly hardy species, survives exposure to a lactic ferment in milk as much as 18 days. This suggests that contaminated milk may thus carry infection in products made from it for considerable periods.

CROSSING IN SPIROGYRA.

Andrews (Bull. Tor. Bot. Club, 1911) notes the discovery of conjugation of *Spirogyra crassa* and *Spirogyra communis*. Reciprocal crosses were found, tho usually the protoplasm of *S. communis* moved over into *S. crassa*. It is to be hoped that there may be later studies of the hybrids after the germination of the zygopores, which are said to be normal in appearance.

A RED EUGLENA.

Hardy (Victorian Nat., 1911) describes a new Euglena, which he calls *E. rubra*, from near Melbourne, Victoria. It occurs in the same locality with *E. viridis*. The author gives a full account of its structure, habits, and divergence from *E. viridis*.

EFFECT OF X-RAYS ON SEX CELLS.

Nogier and Regand (Compt. Rendu. Soc. Biol., 1911) report that complete castration and destruction of semen-producing cells in adult cats and dogs is possible, without injury to intermediate tissues, by means of X-rays.

METHODS OF WORK FOR MICROSCOPISTS.

It is desired that this department shall become of real value to the members. To this end the readers are urged to send in brief, yet clear and complete, accounts of successful devices or methods in connection with any department of microscopy. Quite a number of members have expressed a wish for some such clearing house of practical suggestions for the use of student and teacher. (Ed.)

CLEARING LARGE OBJECTS.

O. Schultze recommends the following clearing process to prepare for the examination of somewhat pigmented, or otherwise